(b) Does not arise.

(c) The National Population Policy, 2000 (NPP 2000) advocates population stabilization by increasing access of people to a range of quality family planning services. The Government promotes voluntary choice of couples for limiting their family size. It does not advocate use of personal incentives for checking population growth.

Allocation to hospitals for procuring critical medical equipments

255. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the total allocation made to Centrally administered hospitals in Delhi and other States for procurement of critical medical equipments during the last three years; year-wise and State-wise;

(b) the amount spent by each of the hospital during the same period;

(c) whether any report has been received by Government regarding the patient dying in the Central Government hospitals either for want of or non-functional critical equipments; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and action taken to fix responsibility and the measures taken to prevent such incidents in the future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Eradication of Filariasis

256. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are embarking upon eradication of the killer disease "Filariasis", as this leads to grotesquely enlarged arms, legs genitalia, breasts etc.;

(b) if so, whether Government are aware that out of 128 million people suffering from this disease, about 40% of them are in India;

(c) how the Government proposed to tackle this gigantic task, and what financial outlay is likely to be allocated; and

(d) whether Central Government would play an effective role in this eradication programme by constant periodical monitoring and taking corrective action thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) Elimination of Lymphatic Filariasis by the year 2015 is the goal under National Health Policy, 2002.

(b) As per World Health Organization, over 120 million people are estimated to be infected with the disease worldwide, out of which 1/3 live in India.

(c) and (d) The strategy for Lymphatic Filariasis Elimination is through annual mass drug administration once a year for at least five years so as to break the cycle of transmission of the disease. The programme is implemented by the State Health Authorities. The Government of India provides drugs, technical and financial support. In 2003-04, Rs. 19.50 crores were released to the States in addition to the supply of the drug. The programme is being intensively monitored by Government of India.

Trauma Centre at AIIMS

†257. PROF. RAM DEO BHANDARY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Trauma Centre at All India Institute of Medical Sciences is ready for use for the last three years;

(b) if so, the reasons for its not being operational so far; and

(c) the details of arrangement being made to make it operational immediately and by when it would be operational?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) No, Sir. The main reasons for the Trauma Centre not being operational are the change in its scope of work to make it a state-of-the-art centre and a role model in the country. The EPC has approved the revised proposal and the same is being submitted for seeking approval of the competent authority. The Trauma Centre will be operational within 6-7 months from the date of approval of the competent authority.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.